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Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report describes progress made in 2017 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in promoting and supporting the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. It outlines the Office's efforts to collect and analyse data, develop implementation tools and provide technical assistance at the global, regional and country levels. It also describes partnerships that the Office has been involved in to promote coherent interventions in crime prevention and criminal justice reform.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/22, in which the Council decided that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice should include in its agenda a standing item on existing United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice[1] and their use and application.

2. During 2017, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) made considerable efforts to promote the use and application of the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice that cover, among other areas, prison reform, non-custodial sanctions and restorative justice, justice for children and responses to violence against children, gender-sensitive crime prevention and criminal justice systems and responses to violence against women, the treatment of victims and witnesses, police reform and access to legal aid in criminal justice systems.

3. The standards and norms developed over the last few decades under the auspices of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice have gained prominence and relevance in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the rule of law was established as a fundamental requirement and enabler of sustainable development. The standards and norms provide practical guidance to Member States for the advancement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (on providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels), including target 16.2, on ending violence against children. The standards and norms are equally relevant to the realization of Goal 5, on gender equality, through promoting gender equality in the criminal justice system and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, and Goal 11, on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. They are also relevant to the realization of the overarching aim of the Sustainable Development Goals of leaving no one behind.

II. Reviewing and promoting the standards

4. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/17, entitled "Restorative justice in criminal matters", UNODC convened an expert group meeting in November 2017 in Ottawa in order to review the use and application of the basic principles on the use of restorative justice programmes in criminal matters. Experts from all regions of the world discussed the various developments in the field of restorative justice and agreed on a set of recommendations for consideration by the Commission (contained in E/CN.15/2018/13).

5. UNODC supported the launch of the Vienna-based Group of Friends of the Nelson Mandela Rules. The objective of that informal group of Member States is to promote the practical application of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), to serve as a support vehicle for UNODC activities to address prison challenges, and to increase visibility of the Nelson Mandela Rules. So far, about 30 Member States have confirmed their interest in participating in the Group's work.

III. Analysing trends

6. The collection of reliable and comprehensive statistical data on crime and criminal justice is a prerequisite for formulating evidence-informed policies and for the assessment and monitoring of the criminal justice response to crime. UNODC supports Member States by developing and promoting statistical standards, providing

[1] The *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice* is available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/compendium.html.

technical support and collecting, analysing and disseminating statistical data on crime and criminal justice.

7. The International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes was endorsed in 2015 by the Statistical Commission (see E/2015/24); in the same year, its implementation plan was endorsed by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. In 2017, as the custodian of the International Classification, UNODC further expanded its activities in developing standards and tools and providing technical assistance to Member States in the field of crime statistics. The number of users of the virtual platform on the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes, an interactive online tool for practitioners in Member States to exchange information and experiences on implementing the International Classification in their jurisdiction, grew from 50 countries to over 70. Materials and tools on the International Classification are also disseminated on a dedicated website (www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/statistics/iccs.html).

8. The Office also provided technical assistance and advice to dozens of countries that are in the process of adapting their national crime statistics to the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes . Together with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Statistics Korea and the Thailand Institute of Justice, UNODC held the first regional training course on the implementation of the International Classification in the Asia-Pacific region in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, in December 2017. National workshops on implementation of the International Classification were also held in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar and Uganda by UNODC and the UNODC/National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Victims of Crime, Public Security and Justice.

9. UNODC is responsible for collecting data on a number of indicators related to Sustainable Development Goals 5, 8, 11, 15 and 16. The Office regularly collects data and metadata on intentional homicide, trafficking in persons and pretrial detention. Where an established international methodology does not yet exist, UNODC has started methodological work on the development of feasible and reliable indicators. In that context, the Office continued to develop guidelines on the use of national crime surveys for the monitoring of selected Sustainable Development Goal indicators on violence and access to justice.

10. In 2017, UNODC also completed a major revision of the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. The review had become necessary to make the Survey fully consistent with the concepts, categories and definitions of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to respond to emerging data needs at the national and international levels, including data needs deriving from the Sustainable Development Goals under the UNODC mandate in the areas of crime, violence, justice and the rule of law. The new data-collection instrument will substantially improve the collection of data on selected crimes and on the operation of criminal justice systems and will lead to an expanded dissemination of statistics on the data portal (https://dataunodc.org).

IV. Developing tools and providing guidance

11. During the reporting period, UNODC continued to develop, update and translate a number of technical assistance tools on various areas of crime prevention and criminal justice (available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/tools.html).

12. Following an expert group meeting held in Vienna in February 2017, UNODC developed a tool entitled *Assessing Compliance with the Nelson Mandela Rules: A Checklist for Internal Inspection Mechanisms*, which was subsequently translated into Arabic, French, German, Russian and Spanish, and widely disseminated among Member States. The tool facilitates the evaluation of prison administrations'

compliance with the Nelson Mandela Rules, including the identification of areas for improvement.

13. In order to support Member States in establishing a rehabilitative approach to prison management, UNODC developed the *Roadmap for the Development of Prison-based Rehabilitation Programmes*. The tool was reviewed during an expert group meeting held in Vienna in January 2017 and provides prison administrations with practical guidance on initiating and enhancing educational, vocational training and work programmes in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules. The Office also launched the *Handbook on the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization to Violence in Prisons*, which constitutes the very first United Nations guidance tool on addressing violent extremism in the specific environment of prisons. The *Handbook* is the result of extensive consultations among prison practitioners and other relevant stakeholders, which UNODC convened in the context of two expert group meetings, held in Vienna in December 2015 and June 2016.

14. In the light of the specific vulnerability of prisons in that regard, UNODC published the *Handbook on Anti-Corruption Measures in Prisons* in November 2017. An initial draft of the *Handbook* had been reviewed at an expert group meeting held in Vienna in September 2014, and was subsequently enriched with examples of good practices.

15. To promote more effective crime prevention, the Office designed an evidence-informed life skills training programme for sport settings, called "Line Up Live Up", through which sport coaches, teachers and other actors working with at-risk youth in sports settings can teach valuable life skills, such as resisting social pressure to engage in delinquency, coping with anxiety and communicating effectively with peers. The training material, which addresses the prevention of crime, violence and drug use, has been translated into Arabic, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

16. To assist Member States in preventing and effectively responding to violence against children, in particular the recruitment and exploitation of children by terrorist and violent extremist groups, UNODC developed the *Handbook on Children Recruited and Exploited by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups: The Role of the Justice System*. The *Handbook*, which serves as a basis for technical assistance, addresses three main issues: (a) preventing the recruitment of children by terrorist and violent extremist groups; (b) identifying effective justice responses to children recruited and exploited by such groups and in contact with the criminal justice system as victims, witnesses or alleged offenders; and (c) promoting the rehabilitation and reintegration of those children in accordance with relevant international standards and norms, in particular the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

17. Eliminating violence against children is also the focus of a publication being developed by UNODC with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, the Pan American Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States of America, the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the United States Agency for International Development, the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, and Together for Girls. The publication will be an implementation tool to help policymakers, planners, practitioners, funders and advocates put the 2016 strategy document *INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children* into practice.

18. UNODC also published the *Resource Book for Trainers on Effective Prosecution Responses to Violence against Women and Girls*, which is currently used as a basis for training programmes in various countries. Together with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Programme

(UNDP) and WHO, the Office developed an implementation guide for the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence* to assist countries in the roll-out and implementation of the *Essential Services Package* at the country level.

19. Together with WHO, UNODC organized an expert group meeting, which was held in Vienna in October 2017, to review and collect substantive input on the draft UNODC/WHO handbook entitled "Treatment and care of people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system: supporting alternatives to conviction or punishment". The handbook is aimed at providing practical guidance on and national examples of diverting people with drug use disorders who are in contact with the criminal justice system to health-care systems in appropriate cases, in line with the international drug control conventions and other relevant standards and norms.

20. To assist Member States in improving police accountability and upholding human rights during police operations, UNODC collaborated with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to develop the *Resource Book on the Use of Force and Firearms in Law Enforcement*. The tool comes at a crucial moment, in which human rights concerns over the use of force by law enforcement agencies are growing in many countries. The tool is aimed at supporting Member States in their efforts to develop and implement effective law enforcement policies that are based on human rights and are in line with international standards and norms. It provides guidance that can be used in the development of model laws, policy documents, standard operating procedures and training curricula.

21. Under its Global eLearning Programme, the Office continued to develop standardized online training modules and customized courses designed to address crime prevention challenges in line with the treaties on drug control and crime prevention, as well as the standards and norms and other relevant international instruments.

V. Providing sustained technical assistance

A. Global

22. Under the Global Programme on Addressing Prison Challenges and the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration: Towards the Promotion of a Culture of Lawfulness, UNODC continued to support Member States in the implementation of standards and norms related to crime prevention and prison reform. Activities were focused on the development of tools and on raising awareness about the importance of social rehabilitation programmes for the prevention of recidivism and the importance of sport for the prevention of crime, violence and drug use among young people. With regard to youth crime prevention through sport, a total of 146 sport coaches were trained in Brazil, Kyrgyzstan and South Africa on the use of the UNODC life skills training programme for at-risk youth. To date, those trainers have trained approximately 800 youth using the "Line Up Live Up" methodology. With regard to prison reform, UNODC continued to promote the Nelson Mandela Rules in nine countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, El Salvador, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Tajikistan, Tunisia and Zambia). Technical assistance to develop business plans for the establishment of prison-based rehabilitation programmes was provided in those countries. The Office also conducted a variety of capacity-building events aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of prison practitioners with regard to international standards and good practices in the field of prisoner rehabilitation, with a specific focus on the development, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of prison-based work programmes. Those events were attended by 350 prison practitioners from more than 40 countries.

23. Within the framework of the Global Programme on Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC continued to assist Member States in the effective implementation of the United Nations Model

Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which constitutes an important instrument for translating the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals 5, 8, 11, 16 and 17 into action. Through initiatives at the global, regional and country levels, UNODC has increased global awareness and understanding of measures to be taken, in particular by the justice system, to prevent and respond to violence against children. In 2017, the Programme was focused on restorative justice for children and the treatment of child victims and witnesses in Latin America and the Caribbean, and on the treatment of children associated with terrorist and violent extremist groups in Africa.

24. Under its Global eLearning Programme, UNODC continued to support Member States through the delivery of courses across the world designed to address crime prevention challenges in line with the standards and norms. Over 350 modules are available on the UNODC Global eLearning platform, as part of courses on human rights in the community, preventing conflict using a human rights-based approach, gender issues in cases of child sexual exploitation, alternatives to imprisonment for women offenders and the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence*. The courses are available to the general public as part of the Office's efforts to raise awareness and transfer knowledge. In 2017, 4,390 users completed the online training modules available on the platform.

B. Africa

25. In Kenya, UNODC supported the national police service in piloting a police reform road map at the police station level in six counties. Some 450 police station commanders received training on police services delivery, including human rights, gender mainstreaming and anti-corruption strategies. UNODC also supported the national police service "police reform champions" programme by developing and implementing a new training curriculum consistent with international standards and norms and assessing the feasibility of establishing a performance management framework. The Office also continued to support the Independent Policing Oversight Authority through the provision of forensic equipment and training to its investigations, forensics and monitoring team.

26. In Somalia, UNODC collaborated with UNDP and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia to train 200 public prosecutors, 20 judges and 150 police officers on criminal and civil procedures, sexual and gender-based violence, investigation techniques and traditional dispute resolution. The Office also provided technical support to the South-Central Somali Police Professional Development Board to develop the Basic Recruit Training Curriculum, composed of 37 different training modules. Together with the African Union Mission in Somalia and the European Union Capacity-Building Mission in Somalia, UNODC conducted two training-of-trainers sessions, attended by 28 police trainers, using the Basic Recruit Training Curriculum. The Office facilitated the printing of 400 copies of the Penal Code, which was distributed to all the federal states, and provided 40 computers and 40 printers to 40 district courts in Puntland. Together with UNFPA, UNODC collaborated with the Ministry of Justice of Somaliland to implement a joint medico-legal response pilot project for timely and effective provision of services to respond to sexual and gender-based violence. Seventy-three professionals from the ministries of health, justice and the interior, the prosecution and health services, the Criminal Investigation Department, the police and civil society were successfully trained on medico-legal examination and coordination. Following a request from the Ministry of Justice to extend the support to other regions, similar training has been conducted in Burao, Boorama, Berbera and Gabiley.

27. In the Sahel region, UNODC continued strengthening countries' capacity to effectively investigate, prosecute and adjudicate criminal cases while upholding human rights and the rule of law. UNODC supported the development of a prison risk assessment tool to better assess the individual security threat posed by prisoners, in

particular violent extremist prisoners, in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. The Office organized training-of-trainers sessions for prison officials who are in charge of piloting the application of the tool and who will be responsible for training additional officials on the classification of violent extremist prisoners.

28. In Niger, UNODC recruited and trained 10 national United Nations Volunteers, in addition to 60 lawyers from the country, on the provision of legal assistance and counsel to terrorist suspects. Within the framework of the Global Programme on Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC developed and launched a three-year project aimed at supporting the Government's efforts to improve the treatment of children associated with Boko Haram. More than 120 justice and child protection professionals from all eight regions of Niger received training on the treatment of child victims of violence, recruitment and trafficking, as well as on strategies and practical measures for adopting a child-sensitive approach when dealing with children associated with terrorist and violent extremist groups. UNODC has also been supporting the Government by providing legal advisory services and promoting the adoption of a decree on rehabilitation centres for children in conflict with the law.

29. In Burkina Faso, UNODC organized the first training session for 20 prison directors on prison management and leadership, based on the UNODC *Handbook for Prison Leaders* and other pertinent UNODC publications, the Nelson Mandela Rules, the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and other relevant United Nations standards and norms.

30. In Cabo Verde, the Office supported the Government in the development of juvenile justice legislation governing detention facilities for children.

31. In the Gambia, at the request of the new national authorities, UNODC undertook two assessment missions to identify where assistance could be provided on criminal justice reform, in particular prison reform and law enforcement. The Office made recommendations on reducing prison overcrowding, providing sustainable judicial training and reforming law enforcement. It also proposed that an expert be embedded in the Ministry of Justice to assist with prosecutions.

32. In Nigeria, UNODC partnered with UNICEF to help draft child protection bills and child justice reform plans in selected states. UNODC and UNICEF also provided training to more than 400 police instructors and officers, 97 judges, 155 magistrates and over 500 family court assessors, social welfare officers and court officers on the treatment of children in the criminal justice system. They also supported the implementation of a pilot community rehabilitation programme to reduce the amount of time spent by children in pre- and post-trial detention. Fourteen children were referred to the programme and 133 children were released from prison, leading the authorities to call on justice actors to prioritize community-based rehabilitation programmes for petty offenders. In terms of access to justice, UNODC supported the development and dissemination of the National Legal Aid Strategy for 2017–2022, a guidance manual on enhancing stakeholder partnerships in pro bono legal services in Nigeria and a paralegal training curriculum, and helped the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria to map legal aid providers.

33. In Southern Africa, UNODC supported Lesotho in the review of its domestic violence bill and coordinated a consultative workshop in preparation for a legislative drafting workshop.

34. In Namibia, UNODC conducted training of trainers for police, prosecutors and victim service providers on effective criminal justice responses to gender-based violence, which created a pool of trainers and contributed to the ongoing development of related training materials. As a result, the Office of the Prosecutor General started rolling out a national training programme, conducted by selected prosecutors who had participated in the training of trainers.

35. In South Africa, UNODC conducted training of trainers for sport coaches working with at-risk youth in the Western Cape to implement the "Line Up Live Up" life skills training programme. In addition, the Office partnered with sports organizations to promote sport as a means of combating youth crime and drug use.

C. Asia

36. In the Asia-Pacific region, UNODC, together with UN-Women, UNFPA and WHO, organized a regional meeting on multi-sectoral services to respond to gender-based violence against women and girls that brought together representatives from the police and the justice, health and social sectors of 12 countries.[2] Participants shared good practices, discussed key challenges and identified priorities for action to implement the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence*. In partnership with government counterparts from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam, UNODC completed a training manual for prosecutors and judges on prosecuting child sexual exploitation and finalized a legal report on legislative and regulatory frameworks to combat child sex offences. The Office also collaborated with the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children to organize training for police and law enforcement officials in Phnom Penh, which was attended by 55 participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

37. In Indonesia, UNODC, together with UN-Women, UNFPA and WHO, supported the Government in translating the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence* into Bahasa. To support prison reform, UNODC gathered government stakeholders, international partners and non-governmental organizations in a strategic coordination meeting to map out existing and future support on the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons. A working group was tasked with identifying gaps in the existing framework and preparing the first draft of a national action plan. The Office is also conducting a study on rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for violent extremist prisoners and prisoners sentenced for supporting terrorist groups. The study is aimed at collecting promising and best practices and creating a framework and indicators with which government agencies and non-governmental organizations may measure the success of efforts to disengage prisoners from violent extremism. During the reporting period, UNODC conducted training of trainers for 58 middle- and senior-level prison managers that covered dynamic security, disengaging prisoners from violent extremism and reintegration support. To promote youth crime prevention, UNODC organized campaigns to raise awareness among young people about justice and rule of law, and organized a hackathon for secondary school students, during which students with coding skills were invited to work on developing educational games on issues relating to justice and the rule of law.

38. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, UNODC conducted a mobile legal aid project in the southern provinces of Savannakhet and Champasak, as part of which over 30 victims of trafficking received basic assistance and legal counselling through cooperation with the Government and non-governmental organizations.

39. In Myanmar, UNODC continued to facilitate the national crime prevention strategy after receiving feedback from the Government on the first draft, and conducted further assessments before submitting the final strategy for adoption. The Office also extended its support to the development of the capacity and professional skills of the Myanmar police force, with the completion of new investigation training manuals for junior, mid-rank and senior officers. To improve the criminal justice response to violence against women, UNODC prepared a handbook and a training curriculum on effective police responses to violence against women in the national language, and conducted several training workshops for police instructors and

[2] Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

front-line officers to enhance their capacity to prevent and respond to cases of violence against women in line with United Nations standards and norms. The Office is also preparing standard operating procedures for the police on responding to cases of sexual and gender-based violence, and on the recruitment, retention and promotion of women in the police force. In terms of prison reform, UNODC continued its coordination with the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to provide capacity-building support for prison staff, with two training seminars on prison management given to 55 prison officials.

40. In Viet Nam, UNODC supported the Ministry of Justice in updating a report containing an analysis of the Vietnamese legal framework on child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, which contains an analysis of the extent to which Viet Nam meets the international legal standards applicable to developing a criminal justice response to child sexual exploitation. UNODC also conducted training for 235 police officers, prosecutors and judges on the relevant international and domestic legal and policy framework on child sexual exploitation, improving their understanding of the crime and focusing on the identification of victims and perpetrators and the application of a victim- and witness-centred and human rights-based response during all phases of the criminal justice response. UNODC also supported the revision of the draft law on legal aid, focusing on strengthening access to justice for women and children. Furthermore, the Office is implementing pilot activities under the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence*, jointly with UN-Women and other partners, by supporting awareness-raising campaigns on gender-based violence, documenting gender-based violence cases, providing aid services to victims and developing evidence-based data for policy advocacy purposes.

41. In Afghanistan, as Co-Chair of the Criminal Law Reform Working Group, UNODC supported the Government in drafting a new penal code that is in line with domestic legislation as well as with relevant international conventions and standards and norms. During the reporting period, UNODC assisted the Ministry of Justice in raising awareness on the implementation of the new code and identifying training needs to develop courses for criminal justice officials. UNODC also distributed 4,700 law books on 60 different laws and the new penal code.

42. In Kazakhstan, UNODC partnered with government authorities and civil society to support the organization of a national conference on the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons, during which prison officials and representatives of law enforcement bodies, security services and civil society organizations reviewed existing systems for risk assessment and classification of violent extremist offenders, and discussed the implementation of prison-based rehabilitation programmes.

43. In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC provided legal and expert advice to support the judicial reform process that resulted in the adoption of new criminal legislation. Under the new legislation, some minor offences will be decriminalized or the penalties for them will be reduced, judicial oversight will be strengthened, the criminal justice system will be moved from an inquisitorial model to an adversarial model, and the social reintegration of offenders will be promoted through the establishment of a new and socially oriented probation service that will manage and oversee the application of alternatives to imprisonment. UNODC trained over 50 criminal justice practitioners who will facilitate further training on the new legislation for law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial bodies. The Office also trained female police officers, introduced a leadership training programme and initiatives to promote gender-sensitive police services in local communities, and partnered with the Ministry of Interior to promote the participation and engagement of women and girls in efforts to prevent violent extremism. To promote effective youth crime prevention, UNODC rolled out the "Line Up Live Up" training programme for sports trainers and physical education teachers, which is aimed at strengthening the life skills of young people and increasing their resilience to crime, violence and drug use. Two training-of-trainers sessions resulted in the certification of 40 trainers, who are now rolling out the curriculum in schools and sports centres where sport is being used as a vehicle to help 13- to 18-year-olds cope with challenges in everyday life.

44. In Uzbekistan, UNODC facilitated discussions on judicial reform, which resulted in the creation of a supreme judicial council to manage the recruitment and selection of judges and monitor adherence by judges to ethical standards. UNODC facilitated expert discussions on international standards and good practices with regard to the appointment and selection of judges and the assessment of judicial performance. The Office also partnered with the General Prosecutor's Office to conduct a round table, which involved 170 participants from Tashkent and the five regions of the country, on promoting the application of the Nelson Mandela Rules. The discussions focused on reducing the scope of imprisonment, improving prison conditions and implementing prison-based rehabilitation programmes and post-release services aimed at ensuring that prisoners are able to lead law-abiding lives upon release.

45. In Pakistan, UNODC carried out a mapping of the criminal justice institutions of Baluchistan Province, resulting in the development of the Rule of Law Road Map of Baluchistan, which was produced in response to the priorities articulated by the police, taxation services, prosecution services, probation services, prison services, the Women's Development Department and the judiciary. In terms of prison reform, the prison management information system, developed with UNODC support, is being replicated in 24 prisons in Punjab Province and 20 prisons in Sindh Province. To promote victim protection and assistance, UNODC developed standard operating procedures to assist and guide relevant law enforcement officials in dealing with cases of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, in particular children and women. In Islamabad, the Office also organized a training-of-trainers session on a victim-centred approach, which was attended by officials from the Federal Investigation Agency, the National Accountability Bureau and the Islamabad Police.

D. Latin America and the Caribbean

46. To promote gender-sensitive criminal justice responses in Latin America and the Caribbean, UNODC convened a subregional workshop on the implementation of the Bangkok Rules, which was attended by representatives of the prison services of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Panama, and civil society organizations from Guatemala. During the workshop, a set of recommendations on actions to address the specific needs and challenges faced by women prisoners was adopted.

47. In Brazil, UNODC started testing the "Line Up Live Up" training programme. Awareness-raising activities for at-risk youth in Brasilia and training of trainers for sports teachers from Brasilia and Rio de Janeiro were held. In November, UNODC initiated and facilitated South-South cooperation through a study visit to Rio de Janeiro by policymakers and practitioners from 10 countries. The event served as an opportunity for sharing best practices through field visits to government and non-governmental initiatives and familiarizing participants with the methodology of "Line Up Live Up". On the margins of the study visit, a memorandum of understanding on strengthening cooperation was signed between UNODC and the government of Rio de Janeiro. The Office also launched a small grants scheme in Brazil through which three non-governmental organizations received support to address youth crime prevention using sport as a vehicle for change. UNODC organized a workshop on managing and monitoring the use of force by law enforcement officers, and transparency related thereto, that was attended by police officers and experts from Brazil and other countries in South America. The Office also signed an agreement to monitor the use of force in the State of Paraná and is gathering information and statistics aimed at providing recommendations to the state governments in order to offer public safety services that are in line with international and human rights standards.

48. In Colombia, UNODC continued to provide technical assistance for the promotion of restorative juvenile justice through the development of national guidelines on the use and application of diversionary measures for children and the training of judges and prosecutors on those guidelines, together with national

partners, UNODC provided training to 100 justice and child protection professionals responsible for the application of custodial and non-custodial measures for children in conflict with the law. A representative of the Office inaugurated a centre for restorative juvenile justice, where children in conflict with the law or victims of crime voluntarily consent to participate in restorative justice-tailored plans. In addition, a cognitive behavioural therapy programme was developed and implemented with a view to improving the cognitive and socio-emotional skills of children deprived of their liberty. To promote urban crime prevention, the Office continued to support local governments in undertaking city safety audits in order to identify the monetary aspects, extent and nature of microtrafficking and provide local governments with a holistic approach to preventing crime, violence and drug use. UNODC also carried out a baseline study to identify urban areas with high rates of criminality to be transformed and re-appropriated by local communities, and formulated a prevention plan to reduce children's involvement in crime in one of the neighbourhoods most affected by crime involving children. In the area of prison reform, UNODC conducted two assessment missions in order to develop a strategy aimed at improving the training and rehabilitation of prisoners.

49. In Guatemala, UNODC has been assisting the Office for the Protection of Witnesses and Victims of the Attorney General's Office through the development of guidelines and standard operating procedures, a protocol for inter-institutional cooperation with the national civil police and two manuals aimed at strengthening its organizational structure in terms of positions, salaries, processes and procedures. UNODC also assisted the Office with the refurbishment of its premises, including by providing basic information technology equipment. Furthermore, UNODC is implementing pilot activities under the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence*.

50. In Mexico, UNODC continued implementing a training programme for 8,000 police officers and emergency call operators in 25 states. The programme is aimed at enhancing capacity to provide victims of gender-based violence with emergency services and at strengthening coordination between police units and women's justice centres. The Office developed a number of training and awareness-raising materials, including training manuals, a cognitive abilities manual for trainers, booklets, posters and videos. The Office also collaborated with several government partners from the security and justice sectors to implement and incorporate a gender and human rights perspective into security and justice policies at the State level.

51. In Panama, UNODC continued to support the judiciary in the implementation of the new adversarial system through the provision of tailor-made training for judges, prosecutors, public defenders, victims' defenders, investigators and staff from the prison system. Over 500 civil servants received training on the specific characteristics of the adversarial system and the Office assisted the Attorney General's Office in developing and rolling out national perception surveys on the new adversarial system from the perspective of criminal justice practitioners and the general population. UNODC also organized youth crime prevention awareness activities for 223 children that promoted values such as integrity and honesty and provided the children with the tools needed to face obstacles, make decisions, act responsibly and create positive environments in diverse social contexts.

52. In Jamaica, UNODC undertook a technical assistance needs assessment mission aimed at identifying challenges and presenting a set of recommendations on strengthening the juvenile justice system, as well as identifying potential partners and opportunities for supporting the efforts of the Government in the areas of juvenile justice and preventing violence against children. National counterparts, with the support of UNODC, are currently establishing a national multi-sectoral coordination mechanism across services and levels of government agencies in order to prevent and respond effectively to violence against children in the country.

E. North Africa and the Middle East

53. In Egypt, UNODC continued to support the Government in strengthening capacity to deal with violence against women and girls, ensuring a victim-centred approach and the fair and effective prosecution of perpetrators. About 300 criminal justice practitioners, including police officers, prosecutors, judges and forensic doctors, received training based on relevant UNODC tools. The Office provided equipment to the Forensic Medicine Authority to support forensic clinics in Cairo, Alexandria and al Mansurah. UNODC also supported the Prosecutor General's Office in setting up a data-management system to monitor the handling of criminal cases, including cases of violence against women, at all levels of the judicial procedure. The Office extended its assistance to the National Council for Women by supporting awareness-raising campaigns on the existence of a hotline for women who are victims of violence and by providing logistical assistance to ensure the proper functioning of the hotline. In addition, UNODC also developed a victims' advocate manual to enhance the capacity of the staff of the Complaint Office of the National Council for Women to offer support to women who are victims of violence. UNODC continued to support juvenile justice reform initiatives by further improving rehabilitation and integration services for children in conflict with the law in closed, semi-closed and open institutions that together host about 550 children; 250 children benefited from reintegration services during the reporting period and UNODC introduced an entertainment programme in those institutions to provide children with activities that are both fun and educational, with the objective of encouraging positive social and moral values. In addition, the Office developed a database for the institutions to document action taken and follow-up with regard to the progress of the children. UNODC trained staff of the probation offices on reintegration, refurbished probation offices and extended its assistance to five additional institutions, covering seven governorates.

54. In Jordan, UNODC collaborated with the Correction and Rehabilitation Centres Department to develop a five-year national plan on rehabilitation and reintegration programmes aiming to reduce recidivism inside prisons. The Office also helped to introduce new rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, including for high-risk prisoners, in line with international standards. In addition, UNODC organized a study visit to Spain, the aim of which was to introduce officials from Jordan to the institutions in Spain dealing with high-risk prisoners and exchange best practices and challenges in the prevention of violent extremism in prisons. The Office refurbished and equipped the new training venue of the Community Peace Centre, including with the necessary information technology equipment. Several training sessions, including awareness-raising sessions on combating violent extremism and extremist ideologies, were held at the new premises. They were aimed at various actors, with a focus on young people, community leaders and members of community-based organizations. UNODC supported the development of internal standard operating procedures for officers working at the Community Peace Centre, with a special focus on the international legal framework and human rights standards on the prevention of violent extremism.

55. In Lebanon, UNODC completed its project on improving detention conditions in Roumieh prison. Prison food management, hygiene and safety were enhanced, a kitchen facility was renovated and equipped, allowing the prison to serve 3,500 meals daily, and regulations and operating procedures were developed. The "Casa Blue" facility for mentally ill prisoners was also renovated and refurbished to better meet the prisoners' hygiene and other basic needs. Furthermore, a rehabilitation programme that included vocational training and income-generating activities for adult prisoners, including high-risk prisoners, was undertaken. An assessment of the current practices in the reintegration of children accused of violent offences and placed in the juvenile wing was conducted, resulting in the development of two risk assessment tools for children, one to be filled at the admission stage and as baseline for further process, and the second to be used for assessing children during their detention in order to measure the impact of rehabilitation and track their disengagement with violent

extremism. Rehabilitation programmes that include vocational training and income-generating activities have also been provided to 120 children, and ongoing efforts are being made to provide psychosocial support to children and young adults, with a special focus on 30 prisoners convicted of offences related to violent extremism, including terrorism.

56. In Libya, UNODC continued to support the country's criminal justice reform efforts. Together with the Ministry of Justice of Libya and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the United States, UNODC organized a workshop on legislative amendment proposals to the Libyan criminal procedure code. UNODC also facilitated a tripartite understanding between the Office, the General Directorate for Prisons and Reintegration of Algeria and the Ministry of Justice of Libya to provide specialized training to prison officials in Libya.

57. In Tunisia, UNODC delivered training to prison directors on leadership, the prevention of recidivism and the social reintegration of inmates, using various UNODC tools such as the *Handbook for Prison Leaders: A Basic Training Tool and Curriculum for Prison Managers Based on International Standards and Norms*, the *Introductory Handbook on the Prevention of Recidivism and the Social Reintegration of Offenders* and the *Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs*.

58. In the State of Palestine, six doctors, who were supported by UNODC, completed their four-year training programme in forensic medicine and are currently serving at West Bank forensic medicine clinics. Their work includes examining cases of sexual and gender-based violence.

59. Within the framework of the UNODC Strategic Partnership with the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, the Office continued to support States in the Gulf region with a view to strengthening the compliance of national criminal justice responses with United Nations standards and norms.

60. Under the aegis of the Gulf Cooperation Council secretariat, UNODC facilitated a working group meeting, held in the United Arab Emirates, on fostering the practical application of the Nelson Mandela Rules. The meeting brought together senior prison practitioners from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. The working group adopted a set of recommendations and tasked the United Arab Emirates with preparing a draft Gulf Cooperation Council charter based on the Nelson Mandela Rules and bearing in mind all relevant international instruments ratified by the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, as well as national legislation and Islamic principles.

61. UNODC also convened a regional workshop on the conduct of law enforcement officials when maintaining order and responding to crime, providing a platform for over 40 law enforcement officials from the region to discuss national experiences of the legal and practical provisions made to implement international standards and uphold human rights when maintaining order and responding to law enforcement challenges. The participants were trained on the standards and norms on the use of force and firearms in law enforcement and called for UNODC support in designing new training curricula for police academies, strengthening the accountability and oversight of law enforcement agencies and improving dialogue between law enforcement agencies and the public.

62. In Bahrain, UNODC extended its assistance to the Ministry of Justice in its efforts to reform the criminal justice system and bring it into line with international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as human rights instruments. During the reporting period, UNODC and the Judicial and Legal Studies Institute of Bahrain continued their joint capacity-development initiative, which is primarily targeted at judges and prosecutors, and extended it to law enforcement officials to strengthen their capacities in the application of the international instruments related to alternatives to imprisonment and preventing trafficking in persons, corruption and cybercrime. In December 2017, UNODC partnered with the Institute to hold a training workshop for judges, prosecutors and officers from the Ministry of Interior, on alternatives to imprisonment.

VI. Partnerships

63. During the reporting period, UNODC continued to promote and strengthen partnerships with other United Nations agencies and regional, international, governmental and non-governmental organizations to develop tools and deliver technical assistance in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice.

64. The Office worked together with UNICEF, OHCHR, WHO, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to mobilize support for and turn into reality the ambitious target of ending violence against children. UNODC also collaborated with the Global Counterterrorism Forum in developing the Neuchâtel Memorandum on Good Practices for Juvenile Justice in a Counterterrorism Context, which is aimed at addressing questions regarding children recruited and exploited by terrorist and violent extremist groups.

65. To promote access to justice and legal aid, UNODC continued its partnership with UNDP, the International Legal Foundation and the Open Society Justice Initiative to develop the thematic framework of the Third International Conference on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, to be held in Georgia in 2018. At the biennial conference of the International Legal Aid Group, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2017, UNODC contributed to the discussions on the establishment of an African legal aid network to support capacity-building in the implementation of the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems. Furthermore, UNODC partnered with UN-Women and OHCHR to develop a project on legal aid for women in Liberia, Senegal and Sierra Leone, funded by the United Nations Development Account (UNDA).

66. With a view to promoting crime prevention in the context of urban safety and security, the Office continued its cooperation with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for implementing the UNDA-funded joint programme to support participatory crime diagnosis and policy development in cities in Colombia, Mexico and South Africa. Together with UN-Habitat and the Habitat III secretariat, and in coordination with the Government of Canada, UNODC organized an expert group meeting on urban crime, good governance and sustainable development to explore ways and means of promoting good city governance and peaceful and inclusive societies in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda. Further to a request made to UNODC by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/188, UNODC made substantive contributions to the development of United Nations system-wide guidelines on safer cities, a process led by UN-Habitat, with a view to ensuring that those guidelines would complement existing international standards and norms on crime prevention.

67. To promote gender mainstreaming in crime prevention and criminal justice, UNODC continued partnering with UN-Women, UNFPA, UNDP and WHO in disseminating and supporting the implementation of the *Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence* in some pilot countries. Together with UN-Women, UNDP and OHCHR, the Office is developing a practitioners' manual on women's access to justice and is engaged in ongoing discussions on joint programmes for women's access to justice.

68. With regard to the development of youth crime prevention tools, UNODC received inputs from UNESCO, WHO and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, one of the institutes of the crime prevention and criminal justice programme network. Other partners included Public Safety Canada and a large number of academic and non-governmental actors working in violence and crime prevention, youth development and sports for development.

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VII. Conclusions and recommendations

69. In 2017, UNODC supported more than 40 Member States in their efforts to develop, update or implement crime prevention and criminal justice policies in line with international standards and norms. Much of this activity was the provision of guidance on the implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules, in particular for reducing the use and scope of imprisonment, improving prison conditions and addressing the issue of radicalization to violence in prisons. There is also a notable interest in preventing and reducing violence against women and girls, and the exploitation of children by violent extremist and terrorist groups. It is essential that UNODC continue to support Member States in all these endeavours, including through the framework of the Global Programme on Addressing Prison Challenges, the Global Programme on Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and other relevant global programmes.

70. In the light of the central role that a transparent, accountable and well-functioning justice sector plays in the realization of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, I encourage Member States to include criminal justice reforms in their national plans and budgets related to the Agenda, including specific targets on crime prevention and the reintegration of offenders and victims, prevention of violence against women and violence against children, access to legal aid in criminal justice systems and good governance in criminal justice systems, in line with the relevant standards and norms.[1] I also encourage Member States to adopt long-term multi-stakeholder plans and programmes that are informed by evidence and engage public participation, including young people and other at-risk groups. By continuing their voluntary contributions in support of the Office's expertise and capacity-building efforts on these matters, Member States can effectively contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular Sustainable Development Goals 5, 11 and 16.

[1] Including, in particular, the most recently adopted standards and norms: the Nelson Mandela Rules (2015); the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2014); the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems (2012); the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2010); and the Bangkok Rules (2010).